SWS phone survey: 62% GMA resign; 85% impeach

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Saturday, July 16, 2005 • 28 pages / vol. 20 / no. 228

Opposition rap sheet lists 100 offenses by Gloria

By Michael Lim Ubac, TJ Burgonio and Philip Tubeza

'Tape ploy to save GMA'

GMA reaping benefits of AFP 'revolving door'



Erap says Chavit used to take heat off 'Hello Garci' scandal

A WRONG script intended to take the heat off President Macapagal-Arroyo and save her government from collapse.

This was what deposed President Joseph Estrada declared yesterday in reaction to the so-called "E-tape" containing alleged conversations between him and former Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Joselin Nazareno dealing with an alleged plot to remove President Arroyo from power.

More Cabinet men to quit, says Hyatt 10

SC chides oil dealers in VAT hearing

By Armand N. Nocum



Farmers group storms Agri; dozens hurt



Cool it, GMA defenders told

By Armand N. Nocum

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

Noli believes GMA will hurdle problems



Bishops, traders go for Truth Commission

Pro-Gloria lawmakers back proposal



Orosa-Goquingco, National Artist, dance pioneer, dies; 87

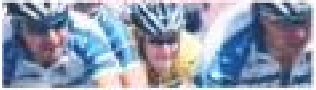


OROSA-GOQUINGCO

SPORTS

WHAT'S INSIDE







Superal superb in Junior World



Sultan faces Japanese for OPBF crown

Abu reiterates AFP neutrality: We will remain apolitical



ABU: 'That's our role'



DOMINGUEZ: I do feel there was an irregularity

Outgoing Nolcom chief admits feeling bitter over AFP top post

The Daily Gospel

'We're not using the bishops,' says KME

Colonel hits Medal of Valor award to 'fake heroes'

By Dona Pazzibugan

"TALAWA singko," (two for five centavos).

That's how Army Col. Arturo Ortiz described the Medal of Valor, the military's highest medal for bravery in combat.

Ortiz, who was awarded the MOV in 1990, is protesting the awarding of the Medal of Valor to Army Lt. Col. Noel Buan and S/Sgt. Leopoldo Diokno. He called them "fake heroes."

He said the medal had been "prostituted" under the term of Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Efren Abu.

"That's why soldiers seldom wear their medals," Ortiz declared. "The medal is now only 'talawa singko.' Now anybody can just get it, even those who haven't smelled gunpowder," Ortiz said in an interview.

Ortiz earned the MOV in 1990 after he led 60 Special Forces soldiers and militiamen against 300 communist rebels in a gun battle in Minis, Nueva Ecija. Eighty-four rebels were killed while only one militiaman was hurt.

Ortiz and another MOV awardee, Lt. Col. Danilo Ferrer resigned from the newly created MOV board on May 5.

Buan and Diokno were awarded the MOV on Dec. 14 for killing Abu Sayyaf commander Hamsiraji Sali, his brother and four of his men in Basilan on April 8, 2004.

Ortiz said Buan "exaggerated" his role in the part of the operation against Sali, who had a $1-million bounty on his head put up by the United States government.

Farmers group storms Agri; dozens hurt



More Cabinet men to quit, says Hyatt 10

GMA reaping benefits of AFP 'revolving door'

SC chides oil dealers in VAT hearing

IBF intends to propel badminton even faster



Heavyweight ghost haunts PBA cager

IN HUDDLE



Beth Celis

Manila Marathon stakes ₱5 million



ATIENZA

SPORTSWATCH



RP dance athletes join ranking tilt

All Power Drag Racing blasts off at Clarkfield

Feria coming, brace for rains – Pagasa

Next 48 hours

Slim chance



BSP AWARD FOR JDV
Speaker Jose de Venecia receives from Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. the BSP Special Award for Outstanding Service as "Champion of OFW Remittances."

Lawyer claims cover-up in Fil-Aussie deportation

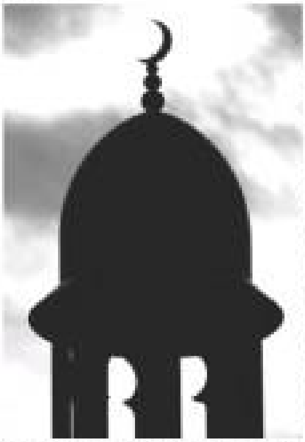
Filipina jailed in Bahrain

The WORLD

Editor: Lorenzo B. Ziga

FBI joins search for London plotters

LONDON—British and FBI officials investigating an al-Qaida connection in the London terror attacks focused on an Egyptian-born chemist who studied in the United States and an 18-year-old Briton of Pakistani descent believed to have set off the bomb aboard a red double-decker bus.



A MINARET is silhouetted as it stands high on a mosque against the sky in the Hyde Park area of London, England, July 14.

Support for Bin Laden, suicide bombing waning among public in key Muslim states

China ready to nuke US over Taiwan, says general

Republic of the Philippines
LIGA NG MGA BARANGAY
NATIONAL

NATIONAL LIGA

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL LIGA ASSEMBLY HELD ON JULY 14, 2005 AT THE HERITAGE HOTEL, PASAY CITY.

A RESOLUTION TO UPHOLD THE DULY CONSTITUTED GOVERNMENT AND TO SUPPORT THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.



BASTILLE DAY

Merck put profits over safety, court told in first Vioxx trial

Wanna follow in Martha's footsteps?



STEWART

Bird flu suspected in 3 deaths in Indonesia



SULTAN'S BIRTHDAY

Israeli helicopters pound Gaza after woman's death

Iraqi forces foil triple suicide attack in Baghdad

Thaksin sets emergency rule over Muslim south

CIA agent's spouse says Rove pushed Plame story

Philippine Daily Inquirer

OPINION



Darkness

BECAUSE of the deafening political noise here at home, we seem to have failed to pay proper attention to what happened in London last week. In the worst attacks the city has suffered since World War II, three subway trains and one bus were bombed mere seconds apart. The July 7 explosions were so powerful that all the 46 fatalities remain unidentified. A massive investigation is being conducted, although British authorities have identified four suicide bombers and the mastermind. All are believed to have connections with Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida international terrorist network.

EDITORIAL

Marie Fatayi-Williams, the mother of one of those who are missing after the attacks, delivered an impassioned condemnation of the bombings:

"They (the perpetrators) are not martyrs. Which cause has been served? Certainly not the cause of God, not the cause of Allah, because God Almighty only gives life and is full of mercy. Anyone who has been misled, or is being misled, to believe that by killing innocent people he or she is serving God should think again because it's not true. Terrorism is not the way, terrorism is not the way. It doesn't beget peace. We can't deliver peace by terrorism. Never can we deliver peace by killing people. Throughout history, those people who have changed the world have done so without violence, they have [won] people to their cause through peaceful protest. Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Mahatma Gandhi—their discipline, their self-sacrifice, their conviction made people turn towards them, to follow them. What inspiration can senseless slaughter provide? Death and destruction of young people in their prime as well as old and helpless can never be the foundations for building society."

The world can only echo her denunciation and amplify her condemnation of terrorism. As with New York City and Madrid, the world can only mourn in solidarity with the victims of the London bombings. But like those cities, our cities and we Filipinos must also wonder if, and when, the darkness we have experienced, might descend upon us, to be experienced yet again.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita was defending government efforts to counter the opposition rally the other day, when he said the military and police had to keep a tight watch because the threat of terrorism remains. He pointed to London as an example. It would be wrong to dismiss outright his warning as an alarm in aid of administration survival. The threat is there. It is real. It deserves sustained attention.

The resignation of Teresita Deles, President Macapagal-Arroyo's former adviser on the peace process, has left a vacuum. It has been said by those close to her that Deles wanted to stand by the President for as long as possible because a major peace agreement with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front was at hand. But she had to resign because she felt, rightly or wrongly, that the President's focus on staying in power made her efforts irrelevant.

This leaves practically unattended, however, the problem of peace in Mindanao, and the continuing threat from radical elements there and elsewhere. Instead of being a token participant in US President George W. Bush's war on terrorism in Iraq, Ms Arroyo should realize that the Philippines can play a much bigger and more significant role in the international effort to combat terrorism by taking care of the home court, and not being part of exhibition matches abroad. Our neighbors strongly feel this, and from time to time, neighbors like Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and even those slightly farther afield, like Australia, say as much in private to our officials.

The London bombings were horrific, but the reaction of British authorities was swift, well organized and level-headed. They serve as a reminder to all governments that in fighting terrorism, it is imperative not to forget that contingency plans in case of terrorist attacks need to be in place. The worst moment in a city or nation's life can also be one of its finest.

Our own government still needs to do much as far as integrating its contingency plans with the private sector and even the media are concerned. The political uncertainties of the present should not be an excuse for our government to dilute its counter-terrorism efforts. Neither should undue alarm be propagated by the government for political ends.

The missing Garcillano

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

[illegible]

Problems with the expanded VAT

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

[illegible]

Shoe is on the other foot

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivarez-Cunanan



Our fight

YOUNG BLOOD

Noel Hernandez

A day in Aichi

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



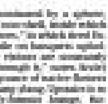
Challenge

Ella F. Cordero

Elements of a fiesta in 1876

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper



A prayer amid the confusion

LETTERS

Back to Spanish occupation

Not party to the transaction

Rosary for wisdom and courage

Across the NATION

US pledges $26M for Mindanao peace

Quake jolts Visayas, sends folk to panic

ROUNDUP

3 fishermen killed

Acting mayor takes action



Elderly woman slain

Migratory bird turned over



Peasant couple killed

NPA camp discovered



Teresa S. Abesamis

Do not resign, for now

I did not vote for Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. In fact, both times that I was asked to help in her presidential campaign in 2004, I replied to an old friend from the anti-Marcos parliament of the streets who was in the GMA camp: How could I, when I had no plans to vote for her candidate. But I did tell my friend that when it came to development goals for our people, we could always work together.

INQUIRER Visayas

Mangroves stop decline of village life

Save the Children

Simple dream

Opposition rap sheet lists 100 offenses by GMA

Magnitude of crimes

De Venecia's role

Legal team

'Irresponsible, baseless'

Toilet paper

Palace ploy

Loose cannon

Drilon told: Shut up

By Philip C. Tubeza

Conscience vote

Disputing minority claims

No choice

Cool it, GMA . . .

Closed book?

Reconciliation

Out

FVR on slay plot: Go ahead, but spare GMA

SWS phone survey…

Truth Commission

Garci tapes

Noli's status

Who were polled

Educational attainment



RAMOS

Best bodyguard

Ramos boys

'Tape ploy to save GMA'

Nothing illegal

Tape spliced

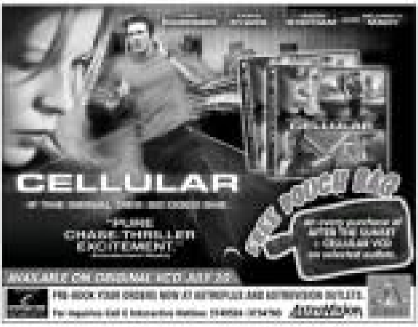
Charges mulled

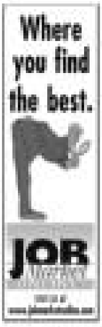
Diversionary tactic

'Concocted'

Erase the NBI







Gloria to stay away from major rally at Rizal Park today

Yellow lane still in place

By Tara V. Quismundo

4 firms closed for waste water



LIFE AT THE LAKE
A fisherman mends the net of a fishpen in Laguna Lake near the shore of Taguig City. The lake, which has been described as the "septic tank" of Metro Manila, has been declared polluted.

By Blanche S. Rivera

'Pajero Lady' escorts charged

Brief shower floods Metro, downs lines

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.



PGH-Philips partner in saving energy

Choosing the lesser evil

ON TARGET
Ramon Tulfo



EZ2: 18 12

SUERTRES: 6 4 2 (In exact order)

MEGALOTTO 6/45: 1 15 25 38 41 43

₱30,297,050.70

METRO

Caloocan City exec escapes ambush

Victim fights back, kills gunman

By Nancy C. Carvajal

[illegible]

100 meters from office

[illegible]

Shooting practice pays off

[illegible]

Possible motives

[illegible]

BUSINESS

Big foreign banks turn bearish on RP

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

Stocks rise as political tensions ease



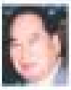
But Bear Stearns still optimistic

By Michelle V. Remo

By Doris C. Dumlao



WHAT'S INSIDE



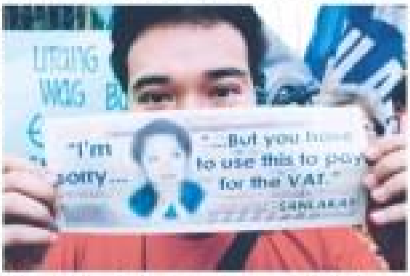
Sy unfazed by political turmoil B2

DOF may push hike in income tax rate B4

OFW remittances surged 19.2% in January-May

Sy unfazed by political turmoil

Topsy-turvy politics dim RP peso outlook



Disclosures

But Bear Stearns ...

Big foreign banks turn bearish on RP

DOF may push hike in income tax rate

Japan agency downgrades RP outlook to negative

Makati Med still bleeding; union halts strike plan

Super



Meet your quarter-life superheroes

(CLOCKWISE from left) Mariel Rodriguez, Drew Arellano, Bianca Gonzalez and Chase Tinio

Here are four fantastic faces of the future, achievers in their fields who are determined to make a difference by highlighting the positive

Introduction by Tim Yap
Interviews by Marbee Lim

LOOK out, world. Here they come. Are Bianca Gonzalez, Chase Tinio, Drew Arellano and Mariel Rodriguez, the Fab Four, as they are now collectively known, the start of a cultural shift for this generation? Of late, the glitz biz has been filled with less than exemplary models that young people can actually look up to. With notoriety being the new celebrity, these four souls stand out in a crowd of push and pull—because they choose to convey positive values, a rare feat in today's "spotlight on me!" era.

What makes these Super! heroes? Not X-ray vision or bullet-proof chests, but the ability to wake people up in the mornings and make them cry, the ability to make their viewers laugh, think, take up sports, look at challenges in the eye and say, "I can do it."

[illegible]



ROCK HARD. Drew Arellano as The Thing

Meet your quarter-life superheroes

From page C1

got to college people started complimenting her on the natural tan. A self-confessed techie, she blogs, with young "morenas" more than proud to be their poster girl and a boost to their self-esteem. "Type *ko talaga Pinoy, Moreno*" she attests, nodding her head repeatedly. With a touch of evil, I interrogate her about boyfriend and director Lino Cayetano's light skin and auburn hair and she completely, charmingly, cracks up at the irony. Still shaking her head, she walks away to strike her next pose.

Mariel Rodriguez jumps up beside me, like a tiny dynamo. She doesn't stop to catch a breath, narrating how she just bet against Chase Tinio on how long he was in college. Pretty gutsy considering Chase should know that little factoid better. She breaks out into the most throaty, cascading laugh I have heard since Andie MacDowell's campy turn in Hudson Hawk.

You know there's just no stopping this girl. From the day manager Jet Valle introduced her to the MTV people, she quickly decided to drop college at DLSU and was immediately whisked off to Singapore to train for "Rouge." She credits her unmarked self-confidence to the wonderful and supportive grandparents who raised her and her younger sister. "I'm really glad my grandparents raised us. My *lolo* is the best. I don't think anyone is kinder. My grandma is the most supportive person. They taught me to believe in myself regardless of other people." When criticized, Mariel just becomes more driven. Her father, living in the US, was completely against her becoming an actress. Her father was so protective that she needed to call him long distance to ask permission just to go malling with friends. Mariel has her own mind. She is determined to be an actress and sets her sights on a "teleserye" when she's ready. Whatever free time she has between "Ok Fine" with Aga Muhlach, MTV gigs and hosting, she watches movies and TV, studying her craft. Given to extremes, Mariel laughs incessantly but she also cries easily. Tears flowed while she watched "The Lion King" and the season-ender of the "OC." From her toothy laugh to deep frown, we can't wait to see Mariel become a real drama queen.

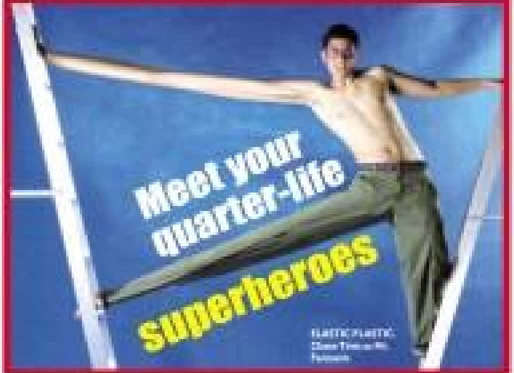
Drew Arellano was more business than show biz when casting directors took notice tapping him for consecutive Sunsilk and GSM Blue commercials. Back then he was an account manager with J. Romero and Associates. He also ran his own business with a friend as the local distributors of Cuetec billiard sticks at Toby's—a business that thrives until today even with Drew's full schedule. His day starts at 4 a.m. with GMA 7's "Unang Hirit" every weekday and hosting jobs. He re-

MEET/ C3



POWER of four



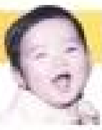


Meet your quarter-life Superheroes





Do you care?



Tim Yap

PEOPLE seem to care less and less.

There seems to be a widening gap between activism and apathy. Of course, stating the obvious, these two words are polar opposites. Before, there would be a collective fight against injustice or anything that curtailed our freedom. I once tried to do that with my mom when she would not allow me to go out, but it didn't work. Then and now, people went to the streets to protest what they thought was wrong, knowing full well that if they say it loud enough, that somebody might just sit up, listen to them, and act up.

The night of the Ayala rallies against the Arroyo administration, there was a feeling of unrest from a lot of people. Text messages about the state of our country and of the President were aplenty, and there was talk about some major network celebration at Rockwell for someone who might be the next in line to the seat of power.

I looked out from my window at Gold's Gym, and all I saw was this lit billboard of an all-you-can-eat Chinese dimsum buffet. Looking outward to the Ayala area, I could still see the Rustan's window well-lit, with a steady flow of cars and customers rushing in for their fill of luxury. I got a call from Borgy Manotoc, who was on his way to the rally to join his mom. "My mom was a child of the sixties, so whenever they felt something had to be done, they would rally to the streets and speak out," he shared. My initial response to this was, "So what's the color theme?" Okay, call me a clueless political nincompoop but I know how color actually stands for something. What if I showed up in canary yellow while the rest of them wore blood red? (Then again, I've never been afraid to be different.)

The last time I joined the rallies was during Edsa Dos, where I celebrated my birthday. It actually felt good deep down to mark my turning a year older by being with people who were there because they wanted something to change for the better. Nope, there were no celebrities (save for the ones who went to speak up to the crowds, like Rosanna Roces and Bong Revilla et al) and no free booze, but there was instant camaraderie between everyone who stood up because they believed in their cause. Prior to that, I also joined the Ayala rallies, with camera on hand to document my "activist years."

Not to be one track-minded, those rallies felt like parties, since we live in a small town where everybody sort of knows everybody—so the setting was like a political "Desperate Housewives," with the Van De Camps handing out sandwiches, the Gabriel Solises showing everyone that they have a heart for charity and the future of the country, and so on. A lot of the politicians did their usual politicking, with the exception of now Sen. Dick Gordon, whose speech was so emotionally charged I had to stop myself from shedding a tear.

Going beyond ice breakers

The night of the Ayala rallies of last week, I did my usual round of nocturnal activity, hopping over to Embassy where a good cross section of people actually congregate and discuss their life issues over a few drinks. Che Singson arranged a birthday dinner for husband Gov. Chavit Singson and friends on the ground floor, while Robina Gokongwei-Pe was having a joint birthday dinner with her schoolmates on the second level of the Cuisine.

Elsewhere, the conversation went like this. "Don't pass Edsa, there are road blocks." "Traffic in Ayala was so bad today that I couldn't go to Greenbelt!" "Have you seen the new Pepe Gallego film Pinoy Blonde?" "How about Fantastic Four?" "Who's gonna replace GMA?" These were just some of the icebreakers I overheard that night. But it didn't go beyond that.

They failed to discuss their opinions on how they felt about the matter, their moral stand, if they were pro or against the President on this "Gloriagate" situation. It all boiled down to how it affected them. Me, me and me. That's how everybody seems to operate these days. I remember during the last elections when I asked a famous and respected businesswoman on who she was going to support for the elections. "I don't know—I just want to spot the right curve on who is more likely to win, because that's who we'll support—that's how businesses operate."

I just kept quiet, pretending what she had said was completely normal (that "I-agree-everyone-does-it" look) and blase for me, but for someone who is still idealistic and hopeful (yes, I'm still young like that) in terms of this country's future, it actually came as a shock.

Student activism is alive

When I ask my "windows to the student worlds," Super's Pepe Diokno and James Gabrillo, they tell me that a lot of students have been going to the rallies.

They even collated some of the materials—some done with wit, and some pretty lame. Student activism isn't dead, but young people aren't as united. The "A list" doesn't stand for activist, but for apathetic.

We are too busy with our own lives that to even stop and think about how we feel about our country and its leaders leaves us a feeling of resignation. We care more about acquiring the latest gadgets or getting load for our text messages. We often look at it from our own framework, that we forget the big picture.

Big picture, more than whodunit and what not means our country's progress—meaning our OWN future. For Gloria, even if it hasn't been proven, my heart bleeds for her and the succeeding generations of her family.

I totally admire her strength and willpower—I am pro-GMA, but if she doesn't come clean out of this, she'll be known by the now and the next as the President who cheated, and got caught doing it, much like Erap was the one who was ousted because of stealing. I would never wish anyone ill, and I am not here to pass judgment. All I want is for things to be better—whether it takes the form of our current leader, or somebody else, as long as that person will try her or his best to uplift the state of our country—that is what I care about. And I'm willing to fight for it—our generation deserves nothing less.

I just hope that the powers that be have our best interests in their mind. Or else we might just end up like how a lot of people are right now—they don't care anymore.